

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3192

INFO COMIDEASTFOR MANAMA BAHRAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 7248

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR, AFSP, JO, US

SUBJECT: REPRESENTATION FUNDS FOR U.S. SHIP VISIT TO JORDAN

REF: 2 FAM PARA 342.2

1. WOULD APPRECIATE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION AS SET FORTH IN REF FAM OF SPECIAL ALLOCATION OF \$200 TO DEFRAY PORTION ONLY OF OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES FOR U.S. OPERATIONAL SHIP VISIT TO AQABA DURING PERIOD DECEMBER 14-18. FOR REMAINDER THIS FISCAL QUARTER, EMBASSY (INCLUDING DAO) HAS LONG SINCE EXHAUSTED REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES GIVEN UNUSUALLY HEAVY SCHEDULE OF VISITORS AND OTHER INCREASING REPRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS HERE.

2. WITHOUT ANY PROMPTING ON OUR PART, GOJ HAS DECIDED TO GO ALL OUT HOSTING VISIT OF FIRST U.S. NAVY VESSEL IN AQABA SINCE 1967 AND VISIT HAS TAKEN ON ALL THE TRAPPINGS OF A "VISIT OF COURTESY." WE THEREFORE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT AND NECESSARY FOR MISSION TO MAKE SOME RECIPROCAL GESTURE. ALTHOUGH EVENTS ARE BEING ADDED DAILY, AT PRESENT JAF, ON BEHALF ON GOJ, IS PLANNING FORMAL BEATING OF RETREAT CEREMONY IN AQABA WITH 275 PIECE BAND, TWO GROUPS OF 44 SHIP PERSONNEL EACH WILL BE THEIR GUESTS ON OVERNIGHT TRIP TO AMMAN/JERASH/AJLUN, THREE GROUPS OF 80 EACH WILL ALSO BE THEIR GUESTS DAILY ON TRIPS TO PETRA, A U.S./JORDANIAN SOCCER GAME WILL BE HELD, AND JAF WILL HOST TWO DINNERS FOR SHIP'S OFFICERS. THE KING WILL

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VISIT AQABA AND SHIP DURING VISIT AND PRESUMABLY THE SHIP'S

CAPTAIN WILL INVITE HIM TO LUNCH. THE KING MAY ALSO HOST A LUNCH IN AQABA.

3. WE ARE PLANNING TO HOLD COCKTAIL/DINNER PARTY FOR 75 PERSONS TO INCLUDE 14 SHIP OFFICERS AND APPROXIMATELY 37 JORDANIANS. IT IS FOR THIS FUNCTION THAT PARTIAL ASSISTANCE WOULD BE APPRECIATED.
PICKERING

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